



MILLENNIUM MOMENTUM FOUNDATION, INC.

8th Annual Opening Doors Awards

DOROTHY CHANDLER PAVILION

135 N. GRAND AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011



*Submitted By
Commissioner Ruth V. Creary
November 14, 2011*

Millennium Momentum Foundation, Inc. 8th Annual Opening Doors Awards
Nov. 3, 2011

Excerpts from Millennium Momentum, Inc. Press Release

Guests turned out in record numbers supporting The Millennium Momentum Foundation (MMF) Inc.'s 8th Annual Opening Doors Scholarship Awards Ceremony & Benefit Dinner held on Thursday, November 3, 2011 at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion's Grand Hall, former home to the Oscars in downtown Los Angeles. Approximately 450 guests were in attendance.

From the moment of arrival, guests of this star-studded affair were greeted with a superb level of hospitality. This occasion, with Co-Anchor, Master of Ceremonies, Marc Brown, proved to be a spectacular night of showcasing the next generation of leaders, and first-class entertainment provided by jazz blue singing sensation, Barbara Morrison. This annual Scholarship awards Program's growth is evidenced by the support for the Foundation, which has emerged as one of the principal providers of leadership development training in the nation. Over \$50,000.00 in academic scholarships were awarded to seventeen deserving college students from Southern California through the organization's Best & Brightest Scholarship Program at this historical event. In addition to being awarded academic scholarships, the Best & Brightest Scholars will have their academic education coupled with practical leadership development and employment preparation skills training, as well as other professional support services through the organization's State-of-the-Art Leadership Development Institute hosted annually on the campus of California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Los Angeles City Council President Pro Tem, Jan Perry, MMF National Spokesperson Actress Tatyana Ali, and Scholarship Committee Chair Allyson Lavalais led efforts to present this year's 2011-2012 Best & Brightest Scholars during the ceremony. California Employment Development Department Division Chief, Michael Dolphin, received the prestigious 2011 President's Award. Other award recipients were: Loyola Marymount University - Ambassador of Education Award and Enterprise Rent-a-Car - Champion of Diversity Award. The event concluded with musician/living legend, Smokey Robinson, receiving the 2011 Humanitarian of the Year Award, presented by the legendary Actress Cicely Tyson and Los Angeles County Supreme Court Judge Ellen C. DeShazer. Smokey, during his acceptance speech, spoke of his struggle with substance abuse and warned the audience of the pitfalls. An enjoyable evening was had by all including Commissioner Ruth Creary, who was busy distributing the Nomination packet for our own Women of the Year Luncheon March 2012.